

Blackwell
Rural District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR

1 9 1 5 .

BY

JOHN O. LITTLEWOOD, D.P.H.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

MANSFIELD :

W. & J. LINNEY, LTD., WEST GATE.

1916.

I N D E X .

Contents.

	Page.
Area and Population of District	11
Annual Reports of Sanitary Inspectors	39
Births and Birth Rate	13
Closet Accommodation	37
Deaths and Death Rate	13
Diphtheria	17
Derbyshire Education Committee's Returns	35
Disinfection	38
Factories and Workshops	41
Housing and Town Planning	36
Infantile Diarrhoea	27
Infantile Mortality	13
Instructions to Consumptives	24
Infant Welfare Centres	33
Measles	19
New Houses Annually Erected	12
Notification of Births Act, 1907	31
Occupation and Consumption	23
Phthisis and other Tubercular Diseases	20
Scavenging	38
School Medical Officer's Report	33
Scarlet Fever	17

INDEX.—Continued.

	Page
Small Pox	19
Summer Diarrhœa	26
Typhoid Fever	30
Vital Statistics—Tables I.-IV.	7
Water Supplies	37
Whooping Cough	19
Zymotic Diseases and Rates of Mortality	14

Rural District Council of Blackwell.

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Vice-Chairman Mr. J. T. TODD.

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Mr. HESKETH	Tibshelf.
Mr. S. C. WARDELL	„
Mr. J. MEIN	South Normanton.
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Mr. T. THOMPSON	Shirebrook.
Mr. JOHN SPENCER	„
Rev. E. H. MULLINS	Langwith.
Mr. G. WHARTON	Ault Hucknall.
Mr J. WARNER	Pleasley.

To the Chairman and Members
OF
The Blackwell Rural District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting for your consideration my Annual Report on the General Sanitary Conditions of your District for the year ending December 31st, 1915, this being the twenty-fourth such report which I have had the honour of preparing since I have acted as your Medical Officer of Health.

Unfortunately, owing to the war, many matters have had to be left in abeyance during the year through financial circumstances. Still, on the whole, a great deal of useful work has been accomplished, and matters needing urgent consideration have in every instance been dealt with.

It was my intention to have introduced a map showing the contributory parishes of the district, but owing to the cost of printing I have decided to allow that innovation, with several others, to stand over until a more opportune time.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

JOHN O. LITTLEWOOD.

TABLE I.

Blackwell Rural District.

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1915 and previous years.

Year.	Population estimated to middle of each Year.	Births.			Total Deaths Registered in the District.		Transferable Deaths.		Nett Deaths belonging to the District.			
		Un- corrected Number.	Nett.		Number.	Rate.	of Non- residents registered in the District.	of Resi- dents not registered in the District.	Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.	
			Number.	Rate.					Number.	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births.		Number.	Rate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1910	40367	...	1427	35·3	500	12·3	2	36	187	131·0	534	13·2
1911	39614	...	1382	34·8	505	12·7	0	40	220	159·2	545	13·7
1912	40038	...	1323	34·4	469	11·7	4	45	152	114·8	514	12·8
1913	40516	...	1350	33·3	494	12·2	6	32	172	127·4	520	12·8
1914	40973	...	1343	32·7	507	12·3	6	49	155	115·4	550	13·4
1915	39540	1262	1270	32·1	435	11·0	11	54	130	102·3	478	12·1

Total population at all ages 39,306 }
 Total families or separate occupiers .. 7,570 } At Census of 1911.

Area of District in acres (land and inland water) 21,239.

TABLE II.

Blackwell Rural District.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1915.

Notifiable Disease.	Number of Cases Notified.							Total Cases Notified in each Locality, (e.g. Parish or Ward) of the District.										Total Cases removed to Hospital.	
	At Ages— Years.							Shirebrook	Normanton	Pinston	Blackwell	Tibshelf	Pleasley	Scarcliffe	A Hucknall	Langwith	Glapwell		
	At all Ages.	Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 45	45 to 65												65 & up-wards
Small-pox .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cholera(c) Plague(p) .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria (including Membranous croup)	80	1	17	54	4	4	...	...	18	2	...	3	19	30	2	4	...	2	35
Erysipelas	23	...	2	...	3	11	4	...	7	...	1	1	1	...	13	...	...	...	...
Scarlet fever.....	222	...	68	143	10	1	...	...	130	10	...	18	22	8	15	19	...	...	160
Typhus fever.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric fever.....	8	...	...	2	1	5	...	...	3	2	...	2	...	...	...	1	...	...	*9
Relapsing fever (R) .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Continued fever (C)	5	...	...	...	...	4	1	...	...	2	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal fever .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
(erebro-spinal Meningitis.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Polionymyellitis.....	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	5	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	2	...	1	...	...	...	...
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	46	...	1	9	12	19	5	...	17	3	5	5	6	6	3	...	1	...	...
Other forms of Tuberculosis	31	3	14	9	2	3	...	...	20	...	...	2	3	3	3	...	...	...	...
Totals	421	9	102	218	32	47	10	3	197	19	632	53	49	37	25	1	2	...	204

*One case discharged as not being Typhoid after a few days in hospital.

Isolation Hospital, Sanatoria, &c.—Langwith Isolation Hospital.

TABLE III.
Blackwell Rural District.
 Causes of, and Ages at Death, during Year 1915.

CAUSE OF DEATH.				Nett Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the District.								Total Deaths whether of "Residents" or "Non-Residents" in Institutions in District.	Contributory Parishes.								
				All ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 2	2 and under 5	5 and under 15.	15 & under 25.	25 & under 45.	45 & under 65.		65 & upwards.	S. Normanton	Tibshelf	Pinxton	Blackwell	Shirebrook	Pleasley	Scarliffe	Ault Hucknall	Langwith	Glapwell
All Causes	{ Certified	...	...	459	122	...	...	...	...	...	...	5								
	{ Uncertified	...	...	19	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Small-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles	...	...	...	32	4	15	12	1	...	...	...	...	...	11	2	11	...	2	6	...
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	3	...	1	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	1	...
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	6	4	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	3	...	1	...	...
Diphtheria and Croup	...	...	...	10	...	...	5	5	...	...	...	...	...	2	3	...	1	3	1	...
Influenza	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	...	...	...	28	...	...	...	1	5	18	4	...	...	1	8	8	1	8	...	2
Tuberculous Meningitis	...	...	...	13	4	3	4	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	3	8	...	...
Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	...	...	4	...	...	2	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	2	...	...
Cancer, malignant disease	...	...	...	24	...	...	...	...	2	15	7	...	...	3	5	2	...	4	3	3
Rheumatic Fever	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Meningitis	...	...	...	8	4	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2	1	2	1	...
Organic Heart Disease	...	...	...	32	...	...	...	2	2	6	15	7	...	5	4	6	4	7	2	1
Bronchitis	...	...	...	36	6	6	1	1	1	3	9	9	...	4	4	5	2	13	2	3
Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	50	17	10	3	3	4	6	4	3	...	5	4	3	6	26	1	1
Other diseases of Respiratory organs	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	1	...	...	2	1	...	...	1	1	1	...	1	...
Diarrhœa and Enteritis	...	...	...	33	25	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	...	6	4	8	1	4
Appendicitis and Typhlitis	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	1
Cirrhosis of Liver	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...
Alcoholism	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nephritis and Bright's Disease	...	...	...	8	...	...	...	1	...	1	4	2	...	...	...	1	5	...	2	...
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...
Other accidents and diseases of	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pregnancy and Parturition	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Congenital Debility and Malformation, including Premature Birth	...	...	...	48	48	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	2	4	5	22	3	4
Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide	...	...	...	22	1	4	2	2	3	3	5	2	...	5	3	2	2	7	2	1
Suicide	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Other Defined Diseases	...	...	...	104	17	2	3	2	1	8	16	55	...	20	10	15	13	22	3	11
Diseases ill-defined or unknown	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	...	...	...	478	130	54	33	24	17	54	78	88	5	65	48	68	49	151	23	33

TABLE IV.
Blackwell Rural District.

Infant Mortality during the Year 1915.

Nett Deaths from stated causes at various Ages under One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 1 Month.	1-3 Months.	3-6 Months.	6-9 Months.	9-12 Months	Total Deaths under One Year.	Normanton.	Tibshelf.	Pinxton.	Blackwell.	Shirebrook.	Pleasley.	Scarliffe.	A. Hucknall.	Langwith.	Glapwell.
All Causes { Certified ... { Uncertified	122 8										
{ Small-pox										
{ Chicken-pox										
{ Measles	1	1	...	...	2	1	4			1	1	...	...	...	2	...	...
{ Scarlet Fever
{ Whooping Cough	1	2	1	4			2	...	1	...	1	...	...	...
{ Diphtheria and Croup
{ Erysipelas
{ Tuberculous Meningitis	2	...	2	4	1	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...
{ Abdominal Tuberculosis
{ Other Tuberculous Diseases
{ Meningitis (<i>not Tuberculous</i>)	2	1	1	4	...	1	1	1	...	1	...	...	...	...
{ Convulsions	1	...	1	...	2	2	3	2	...	9	2	...	1	3	1	...	2	...	...	...
{ Laryngitis
{ Bronchitis	1	1	4	1	...	...	6	1	1	...	1	3	...	...	...	...	...
{ Pneumonia (all forms)	1	...	1	3	5	2	6	17	2	...	...	2	11	...	...	...	2	...
{ Diarrhoea	6	7	6	5	24	7	...	5	2	6	1	3	...	...	...
{ Enteritis	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
{ Gastritis
{ Syphilis	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	...		...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
{ Rickets
{ Suffocation, overlaying	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	...		...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
{ Injury at Birth
{ Atelectasis	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...		...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
{ Congenital Malformations... ..	4	...	...	...	4	1	...	...	...	5	1	1	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...
{ Premature Birth	13	1	2	5	21	5	1	...	...	27	1	1	3	3	12	1	3	3	...	...
{ Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus...	5	1	6	3	4	3	...	16	3	...	1	2	8	1	1	...	...	...
{ Other Causes... ..	1	1	...	...	2	1	2	...	1	6	1	1	1	1	1	...	1	...	...	...
Total ...	19	3	9	10	41	26	28	18	17	130	19	5	15	17	48	6	13	5	2	...

Nett Births in { legitimate 1207.
the year { illegitimate 55.

Nett Deaths in { legitimate infants 115.
the year { illegitimate infants 11.

General Vital Statistics of the District.

AREA AND POPULATION.

The District has an area of 21,239 acres, and in normal times a population of 1.8 per acre.

	Census.	Census.	End of year
	1901.	1911.	1915.*
Population 	28,735	39,306	39,540
Inhabited Houses ...	5,514	7,570	8,019

* As estimated by Registrar-General.

Owing to the fact that we are still at war, and have been since August, 1914, it is impossible to do more than make an approximate estimation of the population for the year under consideration.

The Hospitals of Nottingham, Sheffield, Chesterfield, Worksop, and Mansfield are available for medical and surgical cases.

The Rateable Value was £70,052.

The Assessable Value is £131,149.

The General District Rate in the £ was 1s. 0½d.

Table showing Acreage, Inhabited Houses, Population, Births and Deaths of each Parish of the District,
For the Year ending December 31st, 1915.

PARISHES.	Acres.	In- habited Houses.	Persons per House.	Popu- lation	Birt ^h s.	Deaths.	Deaths under 1 Year.
Blackwell ..	1739	991	5.0	4764	168	49	17
Normanton ..	1934	1423	5.1	6820	221	65	19
Pinxton ..	1253	1093	5.0	5192	158	68	15
Tibshelf ..	2371	807	5.0	3938	91	48	5
Pleasley ..	1788	451	5.3	2331	68	23	6
Shirebrook ..	1505	2098	5.5	10801	399	151	48
Scarcliffe ..	3954	564	5.2	2878	93	33	13
Ault-Hucknall	4429	398	5.0	1890	48	31	5
Langwith ..	1492	174	..	836	15	10	2
Glapwell ..	774	20	..	90	1	0	0
		8019	..	39540	1262	478	130

Table showing the Number of New Houses Erected Annually since 1900.

Parishes.	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915
Blackwell	11	16	27	17	10	6	2	6	21	12	22	6	11	12	26	8
Normanton	15	16	66	42	37	32	5	7	20	40	23	17	30	32	30	33
Tibshelf ..	8	18	37	34	10	20	3	3	3	2	17	10	6	12	3	4
Pinxton ..	2	123	55	32	100	99	6	11	21	19	25	4	25	15	11	1
Pleasley ..	26	9	0	0	2	1	0	0	30	50	36	0	0	0	0	0
Shirebrook	169	167	151	135	47	24	80	130	92	57	36	0	8	4	2	70
Scarcliffe ..	33	23	6	1	0	3	0	1	2	6	6	13	6	0	0	0
A Hucknall	1	1	1	47	1	0	0	0	44	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
Langwith	0	5	0	48	0	0	0	2	1	4	0	0	2	8	34	5
Glapwell ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total. . . .	265	378	343	356	207	185	96	160	235	191	165	51	88	83	106	121

Births and Birth-Rate.

The births registered in the District during the year numbered 1,262, but the number actually belonging to the District was 1,270, as compared with 1,343 for 1914; and they were equal to an annual rate of 32.1 per 1,000 of population. The rate for rural England and Wales was 20.7, and for England and Wales as a whole 21.9 per 1,000 of population.

The birth-rate for the year was only 0.6 per 1,000 below that of the preceding year. The rate must be regarded as very satisfactory, as the country was engaged in war during the whole of the year.

Deaths and Death-Rate.

The nett number of deaths belonging to the District was 478, as against 550 for 1914.

The death-rate for the entire District was 12.1 per 1,000 of population, as compared with 13.4 for 1914.

The rate for rural England and Wales was 13.6.

Infantile Mortality.

During the year 1915, 130 deaths took place under one year of age, which represents a percentage of 27.6 of deaths at all ages in the District.

The infant death-rate for the year was 102.3, as against 115.4 for 1914 per 1,000 births. As the rate of mortality of infants is based on the number of children born in the District, it is

not easy to see how the war could have influenced this exceptionally low rate, beyond the assumption that the mothers had more money at their disposal and more time to devote to the care of their offspring.

It is a well-ascertained fact that many women are better off financially since the war began than ever they were before.

In my report for last year it was shewn that the death-rate for many years past has been gradually declining. The average annual infant death-rate for the five years, 1899—1903, was 168.9. Comparing that figure with the present rate of mortality, 102.3, the general death-rate would be reduced 2.2 per 1,000 of population.

The consideration of these facts has brought home to all public authorities the importance of introducing legislation for child welfare.

Zymotic Diseases and Rates of Mortality.

The zymotic death-rate is subject to great fluctuation according to the epidemic prevalence of one or other of the seven diseases included in this group. The rate appears to be of little real value, as during the epidemics of Measles, Whooping Cough, and Influenza, the number of deaths ascribed to bronchitis and pneumonia is found to be excessive, and ought really to be ascribed to those particular diseases and not as primary affections.

The zymotic death-rate for the year was 2.2 per 1,000 of population, as against 2.3 for the year previous.

The notifiable infectious diseases numbered 421 during the year, and were distributed over the various parishes of the District, as shown on Table II.

Table showing the Number of Cases Notified and Deaths from the Principal Zymotic Diseases
for the Year 1915, and ten preceding years.

DISEASES.	1915		1914		1913		1912		1911		1910		1909		1908		1907		1906		1905	
	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	
Notifiable.	Small Pox ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
	Scarlet Fever ...	222	3	263	3	235	3	288	5	220	4	83	1	132	1	211	4	272	6	119	4	4
	Diphtheria ...	80	10	111	4	43	75	3	86	9	22	5	47	9	16	2	40	7	42	6	19	1
	Erysipelas ...	23	0	16	0	26	0	1	35	0	34	0	20	1	31	0	36	2	50	1	36	1
	Puerperal Fever ...	5	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	2	0	0	10	1	1	0	3	0	7	5	5	0
	Typhoid Fever ...	8	1	0	0	5	0	19	5	30	2	25	2	54	7	18	3	21	6	63	2	
	Cerebro spinal ...																					
	Meningitis ...	0	0	0	0	2	2															
	Phthisis ...	46	28	68	33	78	25	61	26													
	Other Tubercular Diseases ...	31	17	19	22	24	30															
	Poliomyelitis ...	1	0	1	0	0	0															
	Ophthalmia ...																					
	Neonatorum ...	5	0	8	0																	
Non-Notifiable.	Diarrhoea ...	33	33	51	39	14	39	14	73	16	15	16	15	37	37	15	22	15	22	34	34	
	Measles...	32	32	3	17	45	17	45	8	20	23	20	23	13	13	40	4	40	4	16	16	
	Whooping Cough ...	6	6	35	6	1	6	1	11	24	5	24	5	10	10	30	5	30	5	9	9	
	Influenza ...	1	1	5	4	8	4	8	4	3	3	3	3	4	4	4	3	4	3	5	5	

Deaths from the seven principal Zymotic Diseases.

		Rates of mortality.	
	Number.	per 1000 of popn.	
1892	...	55	3.1
1893	...	41	2.2
1894	...	35	1.8
1895	...	48	2.5
1896	...	93	4.3
1897	...	64	2.8
1898	...	62	2.5
1899	...	122	4.7
1900	...	102	3.7
1901	...	99	3.4
1902	...	63	1.9
1903	...	62	1.8
1904	...	61	1.75
1905	...	66	1.85
*1906	...	49	1.30
1907	...	97	2.6
1908	...	66	1.7
1909	...	65	1.6
1910	...	71	1.78
1911	...	109	2.75
1912	...	79	1.9
1913	...	70	1.7
1914	...	96	2.3

* The lowest recorded for the last 15 years.

Scarlet Fever.

The cases notified during the year numbered 222, and affected 164 houses. Of the total, 211 occurred in children under 15 years of age.

The brunt of the disease fell on Shirebrook, which had 130 cases.

With the exception of Pinxton, practically all the other parishes in the district were involved. One hundred and sixty cases were removed to one of the isolation hospitals, and there were 10 return cases.

The case-rate per 1,000 of population was ... 5.6

The case mortality per cent. was ... 1.3

The death-rate per 1,000 of population was ... 0.075

Judging from the case mortality per cent. the cases must have been very mild in character, but, unfortunately, that is not always a criterion that the after effects are equally negligible.

Diphtheria.

For some unknown reason this disease has been exceptionally prevalent in the District for some years past.

The notified cases for the year numbered 80, with a mortality of 10, which cannot be considered otherwise than high.

The following are the statistical returns for the preceding year:—

Year.	Cases.	Deaths	Case Mortality per cent.	Death rate per 1000 of Population.	Case rate per 1000 of Population.
1915... ..	80	10	12.5	.25	2.0
1914... ..	111	4	3.6	.10	2.7
1913... ..	43	6	13.7	.14	1.06
1912... ..	72	3	4.0	.07	1.87

Of the contributory parishes of the District, Pleasley appears to have been the one most seriously involved, with a total of 30 cases. Tibshelf had 19, and Shirebrook 18 cases.

For some inexplicable reason, the disease has been endemic in Pleasley and the locality for several years past. Every effort has been made to elucidate the cause without so far the slightest success. At New Houghton, where the incidence was the highest, the area is well drained, and the scavenging systematically carried out by the Colliery Co.

Regarding the three parishes particularly involved, the following are the statistics shown:—

	Cases.	Deaths.	Case Mortality per cent.	Death-rate per 1000 Population.	Case rate per 1000 Population
Pleasley	30	3	10	1.2	12.8
Tibshelf... ..	19	3	15.8	.76	4.8
Shirebrook ...	18	1	5.5	.09	1.7

On reviewing the above data it is evident that whilst Pleasley suffered the worst as regards prevalence, Tibshelf paid the highest death toll.

Diphtheria antitoxin was liberally supplied free of cost to all the parishes of the District, and a fee of 2s. 6d. paid to the medical attendants for injecting.

Small Pox.

The District has again experienced immunity from this disease.

Measles.

This disease was responsible for 32 deaths during the year, 31 taking place in children under 5 years of age. The parishes chiefly affected were Pinxton, Shirebrook, and Ault Hucknall.

The mortality arising from measles amongst the working classes is so severe as to cause the Local Government Board to consider the advisability of making the disease compulsorily notifiable.

Unless this is followed up by a nursing scheme such compulsion will prove more or less a failure. The disease in itself is not serious, and seldom leads to fatal results, the danger lying in not fully realising the after effects, such as bronchitis, pneumonia, and tubercular susceptibility.

Whooping Cough.

Six deaths occurred from this disease, all in children under two years of age.

Whooping Cough acts similarly to Measles in its after effects, and requires much more attention that is generally believed.

In all probability, before many more years have passed, these diseases, like Typhoid and Diphtheria, will be satisfactorily treated by vaccines.

Phthisis and Other Forms of Tuberculosis.

	1915	1914	1913	1912	1911	Average for previous 5 years.
No. of Deaths from Phthisis	28	33	25	26	27	27
No. of Deaths from Other Tubercular Diseases ...	17	22	30	25	41	30
Death-rate of Phthisis per 1,000 of population ...	.71	.80	.61	.64	.68	.67
Death-rate of Phthisis and other Tubercular Dis- eases combined ...	1.1	1.1	1.35	1.27	1.70	1.37

Cases of Tuberculosis of Lungs (Phthisis) notified during 1915 numbered 46. Other forms of Tuberculosis notified numbered 31.

The case-rate per 1,000 of population for Consumption was 1.1, and the case mortality per cent. 60.9.

Table showing the number of deaths from Phthisis and other forms of Tuberculosis during 1915 and the five preceding years in the contributory parishes of the District:—

	1915		1914		1913		1912		1911		1910	
PARISH.	Phthisis.	Other Tubercular Diseases.	Phthisis.	Other Tubercular Diseases.	Phthisis	Other Tubercular Diseases.	Phthisis.	Other Tubercular Diseases.	Phthisis	Other Tubercular Diseases.	Phthisis.	Other Tubercular Diseases.
Blackwell... ..	1	5	6	2	2	0	3	0	2	3	1	0
Normanton	1	1	5	2	3	1	8	0	3	2	5	3
Pinxton	8	0	1	5	5	1	4	1	4	1	6	4
Tibshelf	8	1	3	2	0	4	2	1	1	2	0	2
Shirebrook	8	10	11	10	6	18	8	17	11	20	8	17
Pleasley	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	2	1	4	0	2
Scarcliffe... ..	0	0	2	0	6	2	1	2	3	6	0	3
Ault Hucknall	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	1	2	2	4	1
Langwith... ..	2	0	2	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	0
Glapwell... ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	28	17	33	22	25	30	26	25	27	31	25	32

AGE PERIOD OF DEATH FROM TUBERCULOSIS, 1915.

Under 5 years. 5—15. 15 & upwards.

Phthisis	0	1	27
Tubercular Meningitis ...	11	2	0
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	2	1	1

Total at all ages, 45.

It will be observed that the death-rate from consumption was slightly below that of 1914.

Reviewing the statistics generally, and comparing them with the returns for 1914, they are certainly on the favourable side, although they are still slightly above the average for the country.

This is not to be wondered at, seeing that urban conditions prevail to a marked extent in the Blackwell Rural area.

Occupations of persons other than school children notified as suffering from Phthisis:—

Males.	{	Miners	19	Females.	{	Domestics	13
		Baker	1			Factory Hands.....	3
		Cinema Operator	1			No Occupation.....	1
			<hr/>				<hr/>
			21				17
			<hr/>				<hr/>

In addition to the above there were 8 cases notified in children.

Cases of Tuberculosis other than Phthisis notified during 1915:—

Diseases of Bones and Joints	...	...	6
Glands	...	...	3
Abdomen	...	...	9
Brain	...	...	12
General Tuberculosis	...	...	1
			<hr/>
			31
			<hr/>

There are at the present time something like 141 persons suffering from Tuberculosis of the Lungs (Phthisis) in the district, who are periodically visited by the Nurses.

As Tuberculosis is a disease which may attack practically any organ of the body, leading to many years of suffering and incapacity for work, the State is fully justified in devoting money and attention in combating so widespread an evil.

Judging from the diminution in the death-rate from Tuberculosis of the Lungs, which has gradually been falling for many years

past, there is every reason to believe that by putting into operation certain rules and regulations, which have been found by experience to be beneficial, the rate may yet be very considerably further reduced.

One of the interesting things which this war is teaching young people is the beneficial influence which an outdoor life has upon the constitution, and in this respect alone it will have accomplished a useful object.

The day may come when it will be deemed advisable to compulsorily segregate every case of consumption in the infective state. The erection of sanatoria throughout the country aims at this object, but whilst an infective case is allowed to leave, the object is to a great extent defeated.

After the disease has been arrested a much greater degree of segregation is advisable than is now carried out. Certain occupations favour the development of Tuberculosis in every form, and for a person to engage in any such employment, particularly after this disease has been arrested by outdoor treatment, is simply to invite trouble.

The three Tuberculosis Nurses engaged in the District are doing an excellent work by pointing out, not only to the infected person, but to the other inmates of the house, how easily the disease may be spread.

Unfortunately, Phthisis is often only discovered when the disease has progressed to a marked degree. This is not to be wondered at, particularly amongst certain classes of people, as it may be very insidious in its origin, and may be regarded as too trifling to seek medical aid.

The Education Committee of the County Council, by requesting the School Doctor to examine periodically the children of parents or near relatives who have suffered from the disease, is taking a wise precaution.

Instructions to Consumptives.

Your three chief wants are FRESH AIR, REST, and GOOD FOOD

1. FRESH AIR.—You cannot have too much fresh air, and should try to spend at least eight hours a day out of doors.

When indoors, keep the bed and sitting rooms as nearly like the outside air as possible, by keeping the windows wide open. Never sleep with the windows shut, however cold may be the weather. A draught is much less dangerous than a stuffy room; indeed, some draught or current of air is necessary to good ventilation. Avoid all crowded rooms, such as theatres, concerts, and public meetings.

2. REST.—One great danger to persons with, or recovering from, consumption, is the tendency to take too violent exercise. At first it is best to spend several hours of the day sitting or lying out of doors, well wrapped up in cold weather, and sheltered from the wind. Later on, gentle walks may be taken, and the distance walked gradually increased week by week. If your temperature goes up, you are exerting yourself too much. If it goes above 100 degrees you should spend most of the day resting. If your temperature remains normal and your weight increases, you may gradually increase your exercise.

Running, jumping, and all heavy or dusty work are forbidden. Always rest for an hour before and after meals.

3. TEMPERATURE.—Take your temperature in the mouth three times a day, before breakfast, after dinner, and at bed time, and record it in your diary. Wash the thermometer in cold water immediately after using it, and keep it in a jar of disinfectant.*

4. **WEIGHT.**—Weigh yourself, if possible, once a week, and keep a record of your weights.

5. **FOOD.**—The ordinary full meals of a healthy man should be taken. Eat slowly, and try to finish your meal, even if you do not feel hungry. Drink two or three pints of boiled milk daily, and avoid alcoholic stimulants, unless specially ordered by the doctor.

Milk is a complete food, but there is no real nourishment in wine, spirits, beer, or stout.

PRECAUTIONS AGAINST INFECTION.

PHLEGM.—The phlegm contains the GERMS OF CONSUMPTION, and must never be allowed to dry and get into the dust of the house.

When indoors spit into a mug, and when out of doors into a pocket-spittoon. Empty the mug and spittoon into the fire, and rinse well with hot water. Keep a little disinfectant* in the mug and spittoon.

After coughing, the lips may be wiped with pieces of rag, which should be burnt at once, or with a handkerchief kept in a linen bag, and not loose in the pocket, or under the pillow. Used handkerchiefs should be boiled daily, and the bag once a week.

Consumptives must not be kissed on the lips.

If these precautions are taken, and the room kept airy, light, and clean, there is not much risk of infection. Another person may share such a room, but not the same bed.

Cups, spoons, and other feeding utensils must be kept separate and scalded after using.

* Disinfectant Solution may be made of Izal, 2 teaspoonfuls to a pint of water, or Carbolic Acid, 2 tablespoonfuls to a pint of water.

Summer Diarrhœa.

Diarrhœa is a disease common to slum life and to areas wherever insanitary conditions exist. It is estimated by the Registrar-General that something like 39,000 children under two years of age perish annually from this cause, and that 17,000 deaths take place in children under one year old. With such a death-roll there is no wonder that the Local Government Board are considering means for preventing the spread of such a fatal malady.

There appears to be several causes why young children are particularly liable to be attacked. In the first place, the secretion of a child's stomach contains but little acid, which has an antiseptic action on organisms swallowed with food. Secondly it is very rare to find cow's milk germ-proof, and thirdly, the exposure to cold to which so many children are ignorantly or carelessly subjected renders them liable to chill, which is a factor of the greatest possible importance.

Breast-fed children are considerably less prone to Diarrhœa than those who are bottle-fed on cow's milk, unless it is boiled.

In summer time a wise precaution is to substitute dry milk for cow's milk, when artificial feeding has to be resorted to.

During the year 33 deaths took place in children under two years old, 25 occurring in the first year of life.

Infantile Diarrhœa.

1.—CAUSE:—

Contamination of Food by FLIES, DUST, and FILTH generally.

2.—PREVENTION:—

- (a) Every possible means should be employed for the destruction of flies.
- (b) Foods of every description should be carefully protected from Flies, Heat, and Dust, and not allowed to remain unduly long in the living room.
- (c) All Milk should be covered with muslin, kept in a cool place, and scalded before use.
- (d) Kitchen Floors and Tables should be kept clean.
- (e) Do not allow the use of a "Comforter," or a Feeding Bottle with a long tube.
- (f) A child should not be weaned except when in good health. Avoid weaning in the months of July, August, and September if possible.

3.—TAKE NOTICE:—

All Animal and Vegetable Refuse should be destroyed by burning.

At the commencement of an attack of Diarrhœa it is desirable to withhold the use of milk for at least 48 hours--- substituting barley water in its place.

JOHN O. LITTLEWOOD, D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health, Blackwell Rural District.

Vital Statistics of the Contributory Parishes Comprised in the Blackwell Rural District for 1915.

PARISHES.	Estimated Population.	RATES PER 1000 LIVING.							Infantile Mor- tality per 1000 Births.
		Birth.	Death.	Zymotic.	Diarrhoea.	Phtthisis.	Other Tubercular Disca- ses.	Respiratory Diseases.	Cancer.
South Normanton ...	6820	32.4	9.5	1.7	1.1	0.14	0.14	1.3	0.4
Pinxton ...	5192	30.4	13.1	3.8	1.1	1.5	0.0	1.7	0.3
Tibshelf ...	3938	23.1	12.2	1.0	0.0	2.0	0.2	2.2	1.2
Blackwell ...	4764	35.2	10.2	1.2	0.8	0.2	1.0	1.9	0.0
Shirebrook ...	10801	36.9	13.9	2.0	0.7	0.7	0.9	3.6	0.3
Plesley ...	2331	29.1	9.8	1.7	0.4	0.0	0.0	1.3	1.2
Scarliffe ...	2878	32.3	11.4	2.7	1.3	0.0	0.0	1.7	1.0
Ault Hucknall ...	1890	25.4	16.4	4.7	1.0	0.0	0.0	2.1	1.6
Langwith ...	836	17.9	11.9	0.0	0.0	2.3	0.0	3.6	1.2
Glapwell ...	90	11.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

	Scarlet Fever	Houses Involved.	Diphtheria	Houses Involved.	Typhoid Fever.	Erysipelas.	Puerperal Fever.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	Polio- my- elitis.	Phthisis.	Other Tuberculous Diseases.	Total.	Total Houses Involved.
Shirebrook	130	94	18	14	3	7	0	2	0	17	20	197	
Normanton	10	10	2	2	2	0	2	0	0	3	0	19	
Pinxton	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	5	0	6	
Blackwell	18	16	3	2	2	1	1	0	0	5	2	32	
Tibshelf	22	14	19	17	0	1	0	2	0	6	3	53	
Pleasley	8	5	30	25	0	0	1	0	1	6	3	49	
Scarliffe	15	10	2	2	0	13	0	1	0	3	3	37	
Ault Hucknall . .	19	15	4	4	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	25	
Langwith	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	
Glapwell	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	
Total	222	164	80	68	8	23	5	5	1	46	31	421	350

Total.. 421

An outbreak of Gastro-enteritis occurred in the parishes of Blackwell and South Normanton about the first week in March, involving some thousands of the inhabitants.

The cause of the outbreak was due to the pollution of the water supply by the sewage of Huthwaite gaining ingress to the mains in that parish. The epidemic was investigated by Dr. Rees, of the Local Government Board, and a report on the results of his inquiry was issued in a printed form.

Typhoid Fever.

Cases notified	8
Deaths	1
Death-rate per 1,000 of population	0.02
Case mortality per cent.	12.5
Case rate per 1,000 of population	0.2
Average case mortality per annum, 10 previous years ...	9.8

The dates and the distribution of the cases were as follows:—

- 1st case, March 3rd, male aged 43, Shirebrook.
- 2nd case, April 3rd, male aged 43, Normanton.
- 3rd case, April 3rd, male aged 43, Normanton.
- 4th case, April 14th, male aged 15, Blackwell.
- 5th case, April 14th, male aged 12, Blackwell (same house).
- 6th case, July 6th, male aged 6, Ault Hucknall.
- 7th case, July 21st, male aged 37, Shirebrook.
- 8th case, October 6th, male aged 40, Shirebrook.

A perusal of the above data shows that nothing approaching an epidemic occurred.

There appears to be no doubt that, with the exception of the two Blackwell boys (who slept together), they were all dissimilar in origin.

Every effort was made to prevent the spread of the disease by prompt isolation and disinfection.

Whenever doubt exists as to diagnosis the medical man in attendance has always the advantage of confirmation by a blood examination, which is undertaken by the Public Health Department of the County Council. Bacteriological examination of water is also undertaken by the same authority.

Chemical analysis of water appears to be of little value unless the water is very highly polluted.

Isolation Hospitals available for the reception of infectious cases are at Langwith, Morton, Marston Moor, and Penmore.

The number of cases removed during the year was 204, at a cost of £464 15s. 0d., averaging £2 5s. 8d. per case.

Notification of Births Act, 1907.

This Act was adopted early in 1914, and came into operation on May 1st of that year.

It was introduced with the object of conserving child-life, having regard to the fact that a very large proportion of children die before attaining one year of age. There is no doubt that it is only a preliminary step to other measures of greater importance, for unless the visits of the nurse are capable of being followed up by certain remedial measures in cases where the infant is found not to be making the progress it ought, the Act is more or less a dead letter.

But it has been found to be an excellent precursor to the establishment of Infant Welfare Centres, and no doubt the promoters of the Act had that object in view. Where they have been worked together the results, although somewhat premature, promise to be very satisfactory. At a time like the present it behoves the country to exercise every possible means in its power to save every child born in the land, as before the war is over the country will be depleted of a vast amount of human life.

It is very advisable that a well-trained nurse should, in certain classes of the community, visit a child at least once a month until it has attained the age of one year, for by practice she becomes very ready in detecting minor ailments, due in the majority of cases to improper **feeding**.

It has been observed that during the first twelve months of life errors in diet often occur, and unless corrected they may allow the child to get in such a condition that it will fall a ready victim to attacks of numerous diseases which, if they do not prove fatal, may produce results which will leave a lasting impression on the future life of the child. The timely advice of a well-trained nurse can do much to set things right, but if in her judgment the case is beyond her skill, she may impress upon the parent the advisability of bringing the infant to a Babies' Welcome, where it will receive the attention of a doctor.

Since the Act came into operation in the District 711 primary visits have been paid, and no less than 1,018 subsequent visits. This is bound to have a beneficial influence, but when it is supplemented by the establishment of Centres, open at fixed times for the reception of all children, whether actually ailing or not, it must add considerably to the well-being of the infant life of the District.

The Establishment of Infant Welfare Centres.

The Council, after careful consideration for some time, finally resolved to establish Infant Welfare Centres and Mothers' Welcomes throughout the District. An agreement was arrived at to engage an extra nurse, and to appoint the Medical Officer of Health to superintend the work and attend at the Centres for the purpose of giving advice to mothers on the management and treatment of their children.

The necessary consent of the Local Government Board was readily obtained, and an early start was made in 1916.

There are, and have been, in existence for some time past, Babies' Welcomes in the large centres of industry in different parts of the country, but I am not aware of many yet established in rural districts on the lines it is proposed to work the Centres in the Blackwell area.

Before inaugurating the scheme it was deemed advisable to seek experience already gained at several of the best regulated Centres in the country, and visits were paid for that purpose.

There is every reason to believe that the members of the Council, by adopting such a progressive and spirited policy, will witness in the near future results fully justifying the action they have taken.

Report of School Medical Officer.

The chief feature of outstanding importance in connection with the medical examination of school children for 1915 is the inclusion of an intermediate group, viz., those between the ages of eight and nine years.

This has brought in quite a large number of children at an age when a medical examination may prove of immense value, as they can be kept under observation for four or five years before being finally liberated into the world as more or less free agents.

It is estimated that for every million of children attending school, something like 350,000 are medically examined annually, and of that number there are approximately 130,000 found to be suffering from some disease or defect. Of this total about 70,000 receive treatment.

The Education Authorities deal annually with 1,900,000 children, of whom 375,000 receive treatment.

Unfortunately there are many parents who absolutely disregard the warnings given them with regard to their children's welfare; in some cases it is through prejudice, but in the majority it is just indolence. The head teacher is capable of accomplishing much good for the children under his care, but it depends absolutely on the personal interest he takes in the scholars. I know of one teacher who succeeds in practically securing every defect attended to, and is sufficiently persistent to get over 90 per cent. of the complaints remedied.

Education Authorities are now empowered, through certain Acts of Parliament, to make provision for the education of physically defective, mentally defective, and epileptic children, and also for such as are deaf and blind.

Had it not been for the war in all probability increased facilities for the treatment of diseases of the eye, ear, throat, nose, and skin would by now have been provided.

It is most disheartening to have the same children brought under one's notice time after time by interested teachers, only to find that nothing has been done to remedy comparatively minor ailments.

The nutrition of a child is of the utmost importance, for on it depends the functional activity of both mind and body.

Derbyshire Education Committee's Returns, 1915.

Results of Medical Inspection for the year ending December 31st, 1915, in the Rural Sanitary District of Blackwell, for the following parishes, viz.: Normanton, Blackwell, Tibshelf, and Pinxton:—

			1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.
Number examined	...	...	1996	1967	2513	3280
Vermineous	...	...	174	222	105	144
Ringworm	...	...	4	1	1	9
Other Skin Diseases	...	...	23	33	51	58
Defective Vision	...	...	89	97	345	474
Defective Hearing	...	...	43	56	62	65
Nasal Obstruction from Enlarged						
Tonsils and Adenoids	...	...	132	114	144	464
Heart Disease	...	...				59
Phthisis	...	...	6	4	25	14
Other Tubercular Diseases	...	...	6	6	6	6
Deformities	...	...	8	11	9	8
Paralysis	...	...	0	2	4	9
Mental Condition—						
(a) Dull and Backward	...	...	108	94	176	270
(b) Mentally Deficient	...	...	7	6	10	8
Squint	...	...		23	27	71
Blephoritis	...	...		14	26	71
Keratitis	...	...		2	0	1
Ophthalmia	...	...		1	0	0
Astigmatism	...	...		2	1	0
Diphtheria	...	...		1	0	0
Chickenpox	...	...		2	0	2
Anæmia	...	...		3	5	14
Lateral Curvature	...	...		3	5	21
Rickets	...	...		8	7	8
Goitre	...	...		17	8	10

Housing and Town Planning.

Owing to the war the Council decided to modify the course previously adopted in carrying out the provisions embodied in the Act.

The officers were instructed to deal only with such cases as, in their judgment, obviously appeared to be injurious to health, such, for example, as leaky roofs, defective privy middens, defective drains, and insanitary backyards.

Estimated number of dwellinghouses in the whole District	7937
Estimated number of dwellinghouses within the limit of rent applicable to the District under Sec. 14, Housing and Town Planning Act, 1909	7052
Number of houses inspected under Sec. 14, and total number of houses inspected under Sec. 17, Housing and Town Planning Act, 1909, and Public Health Act, 1875	3191
Number of houses awaiting inspection. (This total does not include 1,040 houses built since 1908, which reasonably should not call for inspection for some years to come)	2821
Approximate date on which the inspection of the houses for the entire District will be completed—Year ending (under normal conditions)	1919

The following data apply to the year now under consideration only:—

Number of houses inspected under and for the purpose of Sec. 17 of the Act	545
Number of houses which, on inspection, were considered to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	9
Number of representations made to Local Authority with a view of making Closing Orders	9

WORK DONE UNDER HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING ACT, 1909.

Parish.	Number of Houses.	Description of Property.	Date of Inspection.		Date of Report to Council.	DEFECTS.	Action taken by Council.	Result of Action.	REMARKS.
			1915.	1915.					
SHIREBROOK	4	Charlesworth Terrace	January 13th	February 4th		No damp course, defective stone slopstones, outbuildings falling, defective privy middens and ashpits	Notices served	Work done	
"	1	Nicholson's Row	January 14th	Do.		Living room and scullery floor tiles broken, privies and ashpits insanitary, yard surfaces insanitary, plaster of living rooms broken	Do.	Do.	
"	9	Portland Road and Ashbourne Street	April 9th	April 29th		Living room and scullery floor broken, yard surfaces insanitary, insanitary privies and ashpits	Do.	Do.	
"	6	Ashbourne Street	April 20th	May 7th		Living room and scullery floors broken, yard surfaces insanitary, insanitary privies and ashpits, and damp walls	Do.	Do.	
"	1	Merchant Street	March 4th	April 29th		Do.	Do.	Do.	
"	5	Merchant Street	February 12th	April 11th		Do.	Do.	Work in progress	
"	7	Vernon Street	June 2nd	Not reported		Do.	Do.	Work done	
"	1	Ashbourne Street	February 4th	Do.		Do.	Do.	Do.	
"	1	Morris Street	October 13th	Do.		Floor boards of bedrooms broken, copper in scullery falling, and damp course	Do.	Do.	
"	2	Cavendish Street	October 29th	Do.		Yard surfaces insanitary, roofs defective, brickwork of living room walls dangerous	Do.	Do.	
"	1	Warren Terrace	November 23rd	Do.		Defective roof, damp walls	Do.	Do.	
"	1	Langwith Road	December 16th	Do.		Do.	Do.	Do.	
"	13	Sokeholme Lane	December 18th	Do.		Yard and passage surfaces insanitary	Do.	Do.	
"	164	Various parts of the Parish	January to December	Do.		Taken in the course of inspections made in connection with infectious disease; only few minor defects	Not reported; Preliminary notices served	Do.	
SCARCLIFFE	5	5 Cottages, Nag's Head Yard, Palterton	January 25th	March 4th		Defective roofs, dangerous gables, broken floors, yard surfaces insanitary, insufficient light and ventilation, insufficient and insanitary privies	Closing Orders made	Work done and houses now fit for habitation	
"	4	Langwith Road, Hillstown	January 20th	Not reported		Insanitary privies and ashpits and defective brickwork	Notices served	Work done	
"	18	Various parts of the Parish	January to December	Do.		Taken in the course of inspections made in connection with infectious diseases; only a few minor defects	Not reported; Preliminary notices served	Do.	
PLEASLEY	15	Verney Street, New Houghton	October 20th	Do.		Defective drains and slopstone, waste pipes	Work done voluntarily	Do.	
"	4	Stanton Street, New Houghton	July 15th	Do.		Slop pipes defective and short, scullery floor broken	Do.	Do.	
"	1	Verney Street, New Houghton	August 6th	Do.		Scullery floor broken	Do.	Do.	
"	1	Stone Cottage, Pleasley (near Cross)	July 15th	Do.		Defective roof	Do.	Do.	
"	1	173, Portland Street, New Houghton	July 17th	Do.		Defective stone slopstone and drain	Do.	Do.	
"	1	Teversal Road	Do.	Do.		Defective privy, ashpit, and door frames	Do.	Do.	
"	33	Various parts of the Parish	January to December	Do.		Taken in the course of inspections made in connection with infectious diseases; only a few minor defects	Preliminary notices served	Do.	
AULT HUCKNALL	26	Do.	Do.	Do.		Do.	Do.	Do.	
UPPER LANGWITH	2	Do.	Do.	Do.		Do.	Do.	Do.	
GLAPWELL	2	Do.	Do.	Do.		Do.	Do.	Do.	
SOUTH NORMANTON	2	Water Lane	January 7th	January		General rising dampness, broken kitchen floors, no slop sinks, etc.	Notices to be served		
"	8	Bottom Green	February 11th and 12th	February		No slop sinks, defective ashpits and drains	Do.	Second P.H.A. Works completed	
"	4	Bottom Green	Do.	Do.		General insanitary conditions	4 Closing Orders		
"	2	Victoria Street	Do.	Not reported		Minor defects		Works completed	
"	13	Alfreton Road	June	June		General dampness and minor repairs	Notices served, P.H.A.	Do.	
"	1	Water Lane	Do.	Do.		Defective roof, windows, doors, and paving	Do.	Do.	
"	2	Church Street	Do.	Do.		Do.	Do.	Do.	
"	3	Water Lane	Do.	Do.		Drains not connected to the sewer, and defective roof, minor repairs	Do.	Do.	
"	4	Main Street	July 15th	July		Insanitary privy middens, no slop sinks, minor repairs	Do.	Work in hand	
"	6	Main Street	Do	Do.		Open ashpits and minor repairs	Do.	Do.	
"	6	Main Street	July 19th	Do.		Open ashpits and insanitary paving, no slop sinks, minor repairs	Do.	Do.	
"	5	Main Street	Do.	Do.		Open ashpits, no slop sinks, etc.	Do.	Do.	
"	5	Main Street	Do.	Do.		Minor Repairs	Do.	Do.	
"	1	Mansfield Road	Do.	Do.		Do.	Do.	Works completed	
PINXTON	8	Wharf Road	January	January		Defective house roofs, paving, etc.	Do.	Do.	
"	4	Wharf Road	June	June		Defective roofs, ashpits, etc.	Do.	Do.	
"	1	The Wharf	Do.	Do.		Do.	Do.	Do.	
BLACKWELL	13	The Barracks	February 12th	February		Defective roofs, flashing yards, kitchen floors	Do.	Works completed; 3 W.C.'s put in	
"	1	The Green	Do.	Do.		No drains, slop sink, ashpit, and paving	Do.	Do.	
TIESHELF	15	King Street	June	June		General rising dampness, 4 damp gables, flashing throughout very bad, and minor repairs	Do.	Works completed	

Inspected Under Sec. 17, H. and T.P.A., 1909.

Work Done Under Public Health Act, 1875.

Parish.	Number of Houses.	Description of Property.	Date of Inspection.	Date of Report to Council.	DEFECTS.	Action Taken by Council.	Result of Action.	REMARKS.
SHIREBROOK	4	Charlesworth Terrace	1915. January 13th	1915. February 4th	No damp course, defective slopstones, outbuildings, defective and insanitary privies and ashpits	Notices served to repair	Work done	
"	8	Nicholson's Row and Main Street	January 14th	February 4th	Yard surfaces insanitary, insanitary privies and ashpits, living room floors broken, and damp walls	Do.	Work in progress	
"	11	Portland Road and Ashbourne Street	April 9th	April 29th	Yard surfaces insanitary, insanitary privies and ashpits, living room and scullery floors broken, &c.	Do.	Work done	
"	20	Langwith Road	March 25th & 27th	April 29th	Insanitary privies and yard surfaces, damp walls, slop pipes short, &c.	Do.	Do.	
"	5	Ashbourne Street	April 20th	May 7th	Living room and scullery tiles broken, insanitary privies and ashpits, yard surface insanitary, damp walls	Do.	Do.	
"	14	Merchant Street	April 20th	May 7th	Do.	Do.	Do.	
"	6	Division Road	June 23rd	Not reported	No drains, no waste pipes to slopstones, yard surfaces insanitary, and damp walls...	Preliminary notices served	Do.	
"	8	Merchant Street	February 12th	April 11th	Down spouts and eaves gutters defective, yard and passage surfaces insanitary, no ashpit accommodation, damp walls	Notices served to repair	Do.	
"	8	Merchant Street	March 10th	April 11th	Do.	Do.	Do.	
"	14	Merchant Street	February 11th & 13th	April 11th	Do.	Do.	Work in progress	
"	13	Market Street	January 28th	February 12th	Do.	Do.	Work done	

Number of Closing Orders made	9
The number of dwellinghouses, the defects in which were remedied without the making of Closing Orders ...	466
The number of dwellinghouses which, after the making of Closing Orders, were put into a fit state for human habitation	5

The general character of the defects were usually found to be damp walls, defective roofs, absence of damp course, defective caves spouting, defective and insanitary paving of backyards, defective and insanitary privies and ashpits.

It has been the practice since the Act was adopted to deal with such properties and areas as was thought to be most urgently requiring attention.

A good deal of the overcrowding prevalent during the two previous years has been considerably lessened owing to the number of men who have enlisted, these approximately numbering 2,823.

Owing to the difficulty in obtaining labour the provisions of the Housing and Town Planning Act have had to remain in abeyance. The supervision of all newly erected houses is under the jurisdiction of the Surveyor.

Water Supplies.

There is nothing of importance to add to my remarks for 1914.

Closet Accommodation.

Approximate number of houses with privy middens, 2,584; pail closets, 4,284; water closets, 1,186; slop closets, 38.

Number of defective privies improved	357
Number of houses converted from privy middens to w.c.'s	16
Number of houses converted from pails to w.c.'s	11

Scavenging.

The cost of scavenging remains the same as stated for 1914. Each year greater difficulty is experienced in providing suitable places for the deposit of house refuse, particularly in Shirebrook. It may be possible to continue for a few years longer before providing some better means of disposing of the refuse.

Disinfection.

Articles disinfected under high pressure steam:—

Bedding	...	...	...	...	...	1620
Clothing	...	...	...	...	...	464
Furniture, hangings, pillows, carpets, etc....						304
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...		699
						—
						3067
						—

Houses disinfected for Phthisis, 58; Scarlet Fever, 164; Diphtheria, 68; Typhoid, 7; Puerperal Fever, 5; Schools disinfected by one of the officers of the Council, 3.

The schools in the District are now provided with a powerful spraying syringe, which is used by the caretakers as circumstances require.

ANNUAL REPORT OF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

BLACKWELL (SOUTHERN) SANITARY DISTRICT, 1915.

Name of Inspector, S. WILMOT, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Area of District, 7,297. Estimated No. of Houses, 4,314.

New Houses erected, 1915—46.

HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING—

Number of Houses Inspected under Section 17	...	...	105
Number Unfit for Habitation	...	...	4
Representations made to Local Authority as to Closing Orders	...	...	4
Closing Orders Made	...	...	4
	Number of Informal Notices Served by Sanitary Inspector.	Number of Legal Notices Served by Local Authority.	Number of Nuisances Abated with or without Notice.

DRAINAGE—

No Disconnection of Waste Pipe	7	...	0	...	12
Defective Traps, Inlets & Drains	8	...	0	...	7
Drains Obstructed	27	...	2	...	50

CLOSETS AND ASHPITS—

Insanitary Privies, Pail Closets, and Ashpits	133	...	43	...	143
Additional Closet Accommodation	1	...	1	...	4
Conversion of Privies into W.C.'s	15	...	3	...	15
Defective Water Closets	5	...	5	...	14

OTHER DEFECTS—

Paving of Courts and Yards	22	...	11	...	42
Eaves-Spouts and Down-Spouts	15	...	5	...	53
Urinals Defective	2	...	2	...	2
Offensive Accumulations	68	...	22	...	134
Animals improperly kept	3	...	1	...	3
Pigsties	3	...	3	...	3
Overcrowding	5	...	4	...	7
Foul Condition of Houses	6	...	4	...	6
Nuisances not specified above	23	...	10	...	31
Totals...	343	...	116	...	526

	Number on Register.	Inspec- tions Made.	Notices Served.	Nuisances Abated with or without Notice.
Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops...	131	330	3	4
Bakehouses	7	41	4	4
Slaughterhouses	19	82	5	5
Totals...	157	453	12	13

Infected Rooms Disinfected, 151. Method: Liq. Formalin and Spray.
Samples submitted for Examination: Water,—35; Milk,—1.

Food Voluntarily Surrendered—62 tins of Food, 354 lbs. of Beef and
Mutton, 1 Beast.

Other Action taken—3 Cowsheds Closed unfit, 6 Cowsheds re-constructed.

(Signed) S. WILMOT.

ANNUAL REPORT OF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

BLACKWELL (NORTHERN) SANITARY DISTRICT, 1915.

Name of Inspector, JAMES ALFRED JAMES.

Area of District, 13,942 acres. Estimated No. of Houses, 3,623.

New Houses erected 1915—75.

HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING—

Number of Houses Inspected under Section 17 ...	...	...	440
Number Unfit for Habitation ...	...	...	1
Representations made to Local Authority as to Closing Orders	...	...	5
Closing Orders made ...	...	...	5
Number Repaired without Closing Order ...	...	...	359
Number Repaired after Closing Orders made ...	...	...	5
Number Closed ...	...	...	5
Number Repaired Voluntarily ...	...	...	245

Number of Informal Notices Served by Sanitary Inspector.	Number of Legal Notices Served by Local Authority.	Number of Nuisances Abated with or without Notice.
----------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------

DRAINAGE—

Defective Traps, Inlets & Drains	6	...	1	...	7
Drains Obstructed ...	9	...	—	...	46

CLOSETS AND ASHPITS—

Insanitary Privies, Pail Closets, and Ashpits ...	216	...	—	...	216
Additional Closet Accommodation	—	...	2	...	2
Conversion of Privies into W.C.'s	—	...	—	...	1
Conversion of Pail Closets into W.C.'s ...	2	...	—	...	2
Defective Water Closets ...	—	...	—	...	1

OTHER DEFECTS—

Paving of Courts and Yards ...	4	...	—	...	4
Eaves-Spouts and Down-Spouts	1	...	—	...	1
Water Supply ...	1	...	—	...	1
Offensive Accumulations ...	6	...	1	...	7
Animals improperly kept ...	18	...	—	...	18
Pigstyes ...	18	...	—	...	18
Overcrowding ...	2	...	—	...	2
Foul Condition of Houses ...	3	...	—	...	3
Nuisances not specified above ...	—	...	—	...	2

Total...	286	...	4	...	331
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	Number on Register.	Inspec- tions Made.	Notices Served.	Nuisances Abated with or without Notice.
Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops...	67	190	2	2
Bakehouses ...	5	26	1	1
Slaughterhouses ...	15	93	—	1
Offensive Trades ...	1	60	—	—
Total...	88	369	3	4

Infected Rooms Disinfected, 300. Method: Formaldehyde Vapour Spray and Steam Disinfector.

Food Voluntarily Surrendered—132½ lbs. of Tinned Foods, Pickled Tongues, and 344½ lbs. of portions of Carcasses, Livers, &c.

(Signed) JAS. A. JAMES, C.R.S.I., &c.

Factories and Workshops.

The factories situated in the District are five, situate at Pleasley, Scarliffe, and Shirebrook. These have been periodically inspected during the year.

The following is a list of the workshops found in each parish of the District and classified according to the various trades:-

	Ault Hucknall	Blackwell	Clapwell	Pinxton	Pleasley	Shirebrook	Scarliffe	South Normanton	Upper Langwith	Tibshelf	T tal	
Aerated Waters ..	..	.	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Bakehouses .. ..	..	1	..	2	..	4	..	4	1	2	14
Boot Repairing ..	3	3	..	6	2	10	3	4	..	3	34	
Blacksmith	1	2	1	2	1	1	2	2	..	3	15	
Brick Making ..	1	1	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	1	5
Chemical Works..	..	1	..	1	..	..	.	..	..	..	2
Corn Milling ..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	2
Cycle Repairing ..	1	2	..	1	..	3	..	1	..	1	9	
Dressmaking ..	..	4	..	5	3	20	4	3	..	3	42
Engine Cleaning..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	2
Gas Works	1	1	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	1	6
Hosiery Finishing	..	10	..	2	..	1	..	8	..	20	41	
Joinery..	2	4	..	4	1	2	1	3	..	4	21
Millinery	1	..	..	4	..	8	2	3	..	3	21
Malting .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
Printing .. ..	..	..	..	2	..	1	..	1	..	1	5
Plumbing .. ..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	2	..	1	5
Saddlery .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	2
Saw Milling ..	1	1	..	1	1	1	1	1	..	1	8	
Tailoring .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Waggon Repairing	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	1	..	3
	11	31	1	35	9	56	14	32	4	46	239	
Workplaces	1	..	..	..	1	3	..	..	..	..	5

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1915,
for the Blackwell Rural District Council, on the administration
of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, in connection with
FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, LAUNDRIES, WORKPLACES,
AND HOMEWORK.

1.—INSPECTION.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of
Nuisances.

		Inspec- tions.	Written Notices.	Prose- cutions.
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries) ...	200	3	0	
Workplaces (other than outworkers' premises in- included in Part 3 of this report)	17	0	0	
	—	—	—	
Total...	217	3	0	

2.—DEFECTS.

Nuisances under the Public Health Acts—

					Found.	Reme- died.
Want of Cleanliness ... ..	...	...	...	...	3	3
Other Nuisances ... ..	...	...	...	...	2	2
					—	—
Total...					5	5

3.—HOME WORK.

Outworkers' Lists, Section 107—

	Lists received from Employers. Sending twice in the year. Outworkers			Sending once in the year. Outworkers.		
	Lists.	Contrac- tors.	Work- men.	Lists.	Contrac- tors.	Work- men.
Wearing Apparel (1) making, &c.	2					0

4.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Total number of Workshops on Register at end of Year ... 144

S. WILMOT,

Sanitary Inspector,

Southern District.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1915,
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of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, in connection with

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, LAUNDRIES, WORKPLACES, AND HOMEWORK.

1.—INSPECTION.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of
Nuisances.

	Inspec- tions.	Written Notices.	Prose- cutions
Factories (including Factory Laundries)	20	0	0
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries) ...	220	1	0
Workplaces (other than outworkers' premises in- cluded in Part 3 of this report)	27	0	0
	—	—	—
Total...	267	1	0

2.—DEFECTS.

Nuisances under the Public Health Acts—

	Found.	Reme- died.
Want of Cleanliness	0	0
Other Nuisances	0	0

Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act:—

Breach of special sanitary requirements for Fac- tories and Workshops (ss. 5 to 9)	1	1
	—	—
Total...	1	1

3.—HOME WORK.

Outworkers' Lists, Section 107—

	Lists received from Employers. Sending twice in the year, Outworkers.			Sending once in the year, Outworkers		
	Lists.	Con- trac- tors.	Work- men.	Lists.	Con- trac- tors.	Work- men
Wearing Apparel (1) making, &c.			2			

4.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Total number of Workshops on Register at end of Year 95

A. JAMES,

Sanitary Inspector,

Northern District.

